



# Planning Inspectorate

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All Interested Parties and Statutory  
Parties

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN010147

Date: 7 August 2025

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Dear Sir/Madam

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## **Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – rule 9 and rule 8(3)**

**Application by Photovolt Development Partners on behalf of Solar Five Limited (the applicant) for an order granting development consent for the Botley West Solar Farm**

### **Notice of variation to the examination timetable**

We write to provide notification that the Examining Authority (ExA) has made a procedural decision to vary the examination timetable relating to the Applicant's forthcoming second change request. The variation is set out in **annex A and in summary:**

- Creates a new entry at Deadline 5 for Interested Parties and Affected Persons to request and register to speak at an Open Floor Hearing (OFH); and
- Adds the potential for an OFH3 in the week commencing Monday 6 October 2025 (already reserved for other Hearings).

The ExA recognise that the applicant's proposed second change request, notified [REP2-045] and responded to by the ExA [PD-011], suggested that additional land and/ or rights were not being sought, and the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 (the CA Regulations) would not be engaged.

Nonetheless, given the large number of proposed changes to the application, the ExA considers that interested parties and affected persons should have the opportunity to provide oral comment upon the potential changes and the resulting application. The variation to the Examination timetable is therefore made in order to provide that opportunity.

One additional variation is the formal inclusion of the submission on the applicant's second change request at Deadline 5, in accordance with the ExA's instructions for that change request set out in [PD-011].

If you have any questions about the content of this letter, please contact the case team on the details above.

Yours faithfully

*David Wallis*

David Wallis  
Lead member of the Examining Authority

**Annex A Varied Examination Timetable**

## Varied Examination Timetable

The Examining Authority (ExA) is under a duty to **complete** the examination of the application by the end of the period of six months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.

The examination of the application primarily takes the form of the consideration of written submissions. The ExA will also consider any oral representations made at hearings.

Items greyed out indicate that the deadline/event has passed.

Item	Matters	Date
1.	<b>Procedural Deadline A</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notification of any wish to speak at the Preliminary Meeting including the agenda item</li> <li>Notification by Interested Parties of any wish to speak at Issue Specific Hearing 1</li> <li>Notification by Interested Parties of any wish to speak at Open Floor Hearing 1 or Open Floor Hearing 2</li> <li>Written submissions on the Examination Procedure, including any submissions about the use of virtual methods or, if required, reasonable adjustments.</li> </ul>	<b>Wednesday 16 April 2025</b>
2.	<b>Procedural Deadline B</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information requested from the Applicant in the Rule 6 letter regarding the parameters of the assessment in the ES.</li> </ul>	<b>Friday 2 May 2025</b>
3.	<b>Preliminary Meeting</b>	<b>Tuesday 13 May 2025</b> 10:00am
4.	<b>Open Floor Hearing 1</b>	<b>Tuesday 13 May 2025</b> 15.00pm
5.	<b>Open Floor Hearing 2</b>	<b>Wednesday 14 May 2025</b> 10:00am

6.	<b>Issue Specific Hearing 1 into the Development Consent Order and Strategic Matters</b>	<b>Thursday 15 May 2025</b> 10.00am
7.	<b>Issue by the Examining Authority of:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Examination Timetable</li> </ul>	<b>As soon as practicable following the Preliminary Meeting</b>
8.	<b>Deadline 1 (D1)</b> For receipt by the Examining Authority (ExA) of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Written summaries of oral submissions given at the Hearings during the week commencing 12 May 2025.</li> <li>Any post-hearing submissions requested by the ExA</li> <li>Responses to Relevant Representations (RR)</li> <li>Written Representations (WR), including summaries of all WRs exceeding 1500 words</li> <li>Applicant's Compulsory Acquisition (CA) Schedule and Land Rights Tracker (see <b>Annex F of the Rule 6</b>)</li> <li>Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) as requested by the ExA (see <b>Annex F of the Rule 6</b>)</li> <li>Applicant's Statement of Commonality</li> <li>Local Impact Reports from relevant Local Authorities (see <b>Annex F of the Rule 6</b>)</li> <li>Notification by any Statutory Parties who have not submitted a RR of their wish to be considered as an Interested Party (IP)</li> <li>Comments on the Applicant's response to the s51 advice issued at Acceptance</li> <li>Comments on the Applicant's change request application.</li> <li>Any other information requested by the Examining Authority under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules</li> </ul> Updates from the Applicant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Guide to the Application</li> <li>Draft Development Consent Order (dDCO)</li> </ul>	<b>Wednesday 4 June 2025</b>

	<p>(in clean and tracked versions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explanatory Memorandum (in clean and tracked versions)</li> <li>• Schedule of changes to dDCO</li> <li>• Updated Book of Reference (BoR) and Schedule of Changes to the BoR (in clean and tracked versions) (if required).</li> </ul>	
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Issue by the Examining Authority of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examining Authority's First Written Questions (ExQ1)</li> </ul>	<b>Tuesday 10 June 2025</b>
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Deadline 2 (D2)</b></p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responses to Examining Authority's First Written Questions (ExQ1)</li> <li>• Comments on responses to RRs</li> <li>• Comments on WRs</li> <li>• Comments on the Local Impact Reports</li> <li>• Comments on any other information and submissions received at D1</li> <li>• Comments from Affected Persons on Applicant's CA Schedule</li> <li>• Nominations for any locations for an Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI), including the information requested in Annex B, under 'Site Inspections'</li> <li>• Any other information requested by the Examining Authority under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules</li> </ul>	<b>Tuesday 1 July 2025</b>
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>Deadline 3 (D3)</b></p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on any submissions received at D2</li> <li>• Responses to comments on LIRs</li> <li>• Comments on responses to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions (ExQ1)</li> <li>• A statement of progress on SoCG that remain outstanding and submission of SoCG completed since D2 (if required)</li> <li>• Updated SoCG (clean and tracked change</li> </ul>	<b>Tuesday 22 July 2025</b>

	<p>versions)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An updated Statement of Commonality of SoCG (if required)</li> <li>• Comments on the suggested locations to be included in any ASI.</li> <li>• The Applicant's draft itinerary for an ASI.</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the Examining Authority under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules</li> </ul> <p>Updates from the Applicant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) in both clean and tracked versions</li> <li>• Explanatory Memorandum in both clean and tracked versions</li> <li>• Updated CA Schedule and Land Rights Tracker</li> <li>• Guide to the Application</li> <li>• Schedule of changes to dDCO</li> <li>• Updated Book of Reference (BoR) and Schedule of Changes to the BoR (in clean and tracked versions) (if required).</li> </ul>	
<b>12.</b>	<p><b>Publication by the Examining Authority of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second Written Questions (ExQ2) (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Wednesday 30 July 2025</b>
<b>13.</b>	<p><b>Deadline 4 (D4)</b></p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responses to Examining Authority's Second Written Questions (ExQ2)</li> <li>• Notification by Affected Persons of wish to speak at a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing</li> <li>• Comments on the Applicant's draft ASI itinerary</li> <li>• Comments on any other information and submissions received at D3</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the Examining Authority under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules</li> </ul>	<b>Friday 22 August 2025</b>
<b>14.</b>	<b>Deadline 5 (D5)</b>	<b>Friday 12 September 2025</b>

	<p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Notification by Interested Parties and Affected Persons of wish to speak at an Open Floor Hearing</li> <li>• Comments on Responses to Examining Authority's ExQ2 (if required);</li> <li>• Comments on any other information and submissions received at D4</li> <li>• Submission of Applicant's Second Change Request in accordance with the timetable set in [PD-011]</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the Examining Authority under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules</li> </ul>	
<b>15.</b>	<p><b>Publication by the Examining Authority of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES) (if required)</li> <li>• The Examining Authority's proposed schedule of changes to the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Thursday 18 September 2025</b>
<b>16.</b>	<p><b>Blended Hearings (week reserved for Hearings and ASI)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue Specific Hearing(s) (if required)</li> <li>• Compulsory Acquisition Hearing(s) (if required)</li> <li>• ASI (if required)</li> <li>• Open Floor Hearing (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>w/c Monday 6 October 2025</b>
<b>17.</b>	<p><b>Deadline 6 (D6)</b></p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Written summaries of oral submissions made at any Hearings held during the week commencing 6 October 2025.</li> <li>• Any post-hearing submissions requested by the ExA</li> <li>• Responses to the RIES (if required)</li> <li>• Comments on the Examining Authority's proposed schedule of changes to the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO)</li> <li>• Comments on any other information and</li> </ul>	<b>Monday 20 October 2025</b>

	<p>submissions received at D5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any further information requested by the Examining Authority under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules</li> </ul>	
<b>18.</b>	<p><b>Deadline 7 (D7)</b></p> <p>For receipt by the Examining Authority of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comments on the responses to the RIES (if required).</li> <li>Comments on responses to the Examining Authority's proposed schedule of changes to the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO)</li> <li>Comments on any other information and submissions received at D6</li> <li>Closing Statements from IPs and APs</li> <li>Closing Statements from Statutory Undertakers, including matters relating to protective provisions</li> <li>Any further information requested by the Examining Authority under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules</li> </ul> <p>Final Updates from the Applicant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Signed Statements of Common Ground</li> <li>Final Statement of Commonality of SoCG</li> <li>Final Guide to the Application</li> <li>Final draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) in the Statutory Instrument (SI) template with the SI template validation report in both clean and tracked change versions (both in Word and .pdf format)</li> </ul> <p>The applicant is to provide the email notification from <a href="https://publishing.legislation.gov.uk/validation">https://publishing.legislation.gov.uk/validation</a> confirming the document has successfully passed validation, and the PDF version of the SI validation report obtained from the link in the notification email. The applicant should also provide a clean (all tracking removed) standalone MS Word version of the draft DCO, with no header or cover page</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final Explanatory Memorandum</li> <li>Final Schedule of changes to dDCO</li> </ul>	<p><b>Monday 10 November 2025</b></p>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Compulsory Acquisition Schedule and Land Rights Tracker</li> <li>• Final updated Book of Reference</li> </ul>	
<b>19.</b>	<p><b>Deadline 8 (D8)</b></p> <p>For receipt by the Examining Authority of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any further information requested by the Examining Authority under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Thursday 13 November 2025</b>
<b>20.</b>	<p><b>Close of Examination by the Examining Authority</b></p> <p>The Examining Authority is under a duty to complete the examination of the application by the end of the period of six months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.</p> <p>Please note that the ExA may close the Examination before the end of the six-month period if it is satisfied that all relevant matters have been addressed and discussed.</p>	<b>Thursday 13 November 2025</b>

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